

REMARKS

Other than for the change of the status identifiers for claims 2, 8, 13-15, and 19, the instant amendment is identical to that mailed on January 4, 2006.

A petition and fee for an extension of time is attached hereto.

Reconsideration of the above identified patent application is hereby respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks. Claims 13, 14, and 15 have been canceled and claims 1, 16, and 20 have been amended. Claims 2, 8, and 19 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1, 3-7, 9-18, and 20 remain in the case.

The applicant appreciated the thoroughness of the review by Examiner Kimberly T. Wood and the indication of allowable subject matter.

Election/Restrictions

The withdrawal of claims 2, 8, and 19 is noted.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC 102 and 103

The claim rejections are noted and are believed to be overcome as described hereinafter.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 15 and 16 were indicated as allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 USC 112 and if rewritten to include the limitations of all intervening claims.

There were no rejections under 35 USC 112 presented and therefore there are none to overcome. It is believed that the inclusion of this recitation in the Office Action was a "typo" and is not relevant. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The limitations of allowable claim 15 and intervening claims 13 and 14 have been combined with base claim 1. Accordingly, base claim 1 is believed to be in condition of allowance. Remaining dependent claims 3-7 and 9-18 depend from claim 1 and also include all of the limitations of the base claim. Therefore, the remaining dependent claims are also therefore believed to be in condition of allowance. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claim 16 was amended to correct an error in antecedent basis that arose with the cancellation of claim 15.

Claim 20, which included the structure of claim 1, has been amended to also include the additional structural limitations of claim 15 and intervening claims 13 and 14 and is therefore believed to be in condition of allowance for the same reason as is claim 1.

Accordingly, reconsideration of claim 20 is respectfully requested.

Certain of the prior art made of record and not relied upon that is considered pertinent to the applicant's disclosure has been reviewed by the undersigned, but is deemed no more relevant than the applied references.

As all remaining claims 1, 3-7, 9-18, and 20 appear to be in condition of allowance, reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested, and a notice of allowance is courteously urged at the earliest time.

The applicant appreciates the opportunity to communicate by telephone with the Examiner if necessary. Please continue to direct all correspondence to the correspondence address and telephone as shown below.

Respectfully submitted,



Risto A. Rinne, Jr.
Reg. # 37,055

2173 East Francisco Blvd.
Suite E
San Rafael, CA 94901

1-415-457-6933